

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 00104 041523Z

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 SSO-00 PRS-01 RSC-01 /012 W

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O 041415Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8262

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 0104

FOR SECRETARY GARDNER ABOARD AIRCRAFT

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: EFIN

SUBJECT: TREASURY/CONGRESSIONAL VISIT

RE: PLANESIDE PRESS CONTACT PARA 4, REFTEL 4657 040945Z JAN 75

BACKGROUND-LOCAL PRESS FRIENDLY AND POLITE- ANY QUESTIONS WILL BE ROUTINE AND NO CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECTS LIKELY TO BE RAISED. LATE HOUR OF ARRIVAL AND VERY SHORT TIME AVAILABLE WILL OF NECESSITY KEEP QUESTIONS LIMITED MOSTLY TO AMENITIES. NOTE: THERE IS A REMOTE POSSIBILITY THAT NEWSMAN MAY ASK ABOUT US POLICY ON LIFTING ARMS EMBARGO ON PAKISTAN. WE SUGGEST NO DIRECT ANSWER BE ATTEMPTED ON THIS QUESTION. IT CAN BE EXPLAINED THAT GROUP IS FOCUSING ON FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONCERNS AND THE STATE DEPT AND OTHER AGENCIES OF THE US GOVERNMENT HAVE THE MILITARY ASSISTANCE MATTER UNDER REVIEW.

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS:

(1) PURPOSE OF VISIT- SUGGESTED ANSWER: GROUP IS INTERESTED IN GAINING FIRST-HAND KNOWLEDGE OF PROJECTS FINANCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY THE WORLD BANK AND THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, BOTH GETTING PART OF THEIR SUPPORT FROM THE US GOVERNMENT. ALSO CAN ADD THAT BOTH THE US GOVERNMENT AND THE CONGRESS ARE INTERESTED IN PAKISTAN AND ITS DEVELOPMENTAL EFFORTS. REPORTS HAVE BEEN REACHING THE US THAT PAKISTAN IS MAKING SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IN SPITE OF GREAT DIFFICULTIES, WHICH HAVE

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INCLUDED A NUMBER OF DISCOURAGING SET-BACKS SUCH AS THE RECENT

EARTHQUAKE.

(2) EARTHQUAKE- SUGGESTED COMMENT : EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY
AT GREAT LOSS OF LIFE, MANY INJURIES, SUFFERING OF SURVIVORS,
AND EXTENSIVE DAMAGE TO PROPERTY. FYI: PRESENT ESTIMATES HAVE
MORE THAN 5000 KILLED AND UPWARDS OF 15000 INJURED. GROUP MIGHT
WISH TO NOTE THAT PAKISTAN'S OWN EFFORTS DESERVE COMMENDATION;
RELIEF HAS BEEN QUICKLY ORGANIZED AND EFFECTIVE MEASURES BEING
TAKEN TO RELIEVE SUFFERING. PRESS AT AIRPORT WILL KNOW ABOUT
MEDICAL SUPPLIES BEING BROUGHT AND MAY ASK ABOUT THESE:
SUGGESTED COMMENT: LEARNED THAT MEDICAL SUPPLIES URGENTLY NEEDED
-SPACE AVAILABLE ON AIRCRAFT AND GROUP HAPPY TO BE ABLE TO
MAKE CONTRIBUTION BY BRINGING SHIPMENT.

REF: RUEBADA 0008 040816Z JAN 75:

DRY ICE NOT AVAILABLE HERE.
BYROADE

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